WORKS IN PROGRESS

VOLUME 5, NO. 3 | THURSTON COUNTY RAINBOW COALITION | JULY 1994 • FREE

"Learn to be quiet enough to hear the sound of the genuine within yourself so that you can hear it in other people." Marian Wright Edelman

Capital City Pride March and Rally

Photo by Dave Campbell

Olympia Pride March '93

Photo by Dave Campbell

Olympia group in Seattle Pride March '91.
In memorium, Tod Streater (center, waving),
well-known activist, AIDS victim 7-11-93.

Why Does Sewage Cost A LOTT? Page 3

Homeless News & Views Pages 4-5

Marable– *Along The Color Line* Page 6

Area Services and Groups

P-FLAG

Parents, Families and Friends of Lesbians and Gays
meets 2pm on the second Sunday of each month in the Parlor of the First United Methodist Church.
PO Box 6123
Olympia, WA 98502
(206) 866-0511
National Resource Line
1-800-4FAMILY

COLAGE

Children of Lesbians and Gays Everywhere
The support group for the heterosexual children of lesbian and gay parents, meets same as P-FLAG. Contact P-FLAG number and address for info.

Stonewall Youth

a Bisexual, Gay, and Lesbian peer support group for people 21 and under meets weekly.
PO Box 7383
Olympia, WA 98507
705-2738

ACT UP

AIDS Coalition To Unleash Power
1202 E. Pine #814
Seattle, WA 98122
726-1678

Partners Task Force for Gay & Lesbian Couples

a national clearinghouse for information on committed same-sex partners.
Box 9685 Seattle, WA 98109

Washington Citizens for Fairness: The Hands Off Washington Campaign

dedicated to preventing bigotry from becoming law.
PO Box 5619
Lacey, WA 98503
786-6608

Queer Nation

1202 E. Pike ST #884
Seattle, WA 98122
(206) 720-4686

South Sound Alliance

a regional network of organizations serving affectional minority communities in rural Washington.
Alliance Line (206) 924-1459
Th-F 6-10pm, Sat 12-10pm

PO Box 4828
Seattle, WA 98104
323-5191, fax 323-3560

Unity in the Community: Stop Hate Crimes Now!

PO Box 7221
Olympia, WA 98507

Olympia AIDS Task Force

1408 E. State
Olympia, WA 98501
352-2375

Sound Out

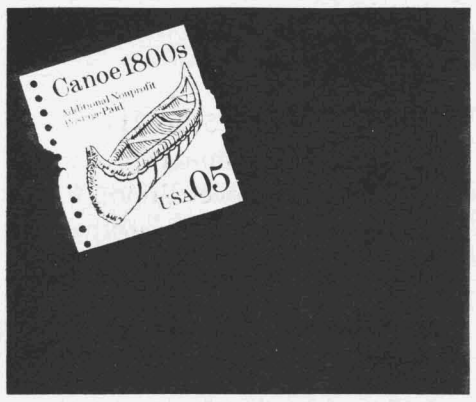
Monthly Queer Community Peoples Publication for the South Sound area.
Subscriptions available for $12 per year.
PO Box 1844
Olympia, WA 98507
705-1294

Olympia AIDS Prevention Project

114 N. Cherry
Olympia, WA 98501
705-4753

For a more complete list of services and groups see "Community Lifelines" in *Sound Out*.

Letters



Healing Alienation: The Alternative to Isolation

Some bi, gay and lesbian youth are rejected by family and friends. Some experience low self-esteem and fear of "being found out." What hope is there of healing for these youth?

Stonewall Youth, a private, non-profit, volunteer organization, offers peer support group meetings facilitated by trained facilitators. Youth may explore feelings about their identity, lessen their confusion and isolation in a safe, caring and confidential environment. Periodically they plan social activities such as dances, video nights and bowling.

Stonewall Youth is looking for a few good women and men volunteers to serve on the board (on time meetings once per month) or to be trained as facilitators.

For more information call 705-2738 and leave a message.

Capitalism and Cancer

Dear Sir,

If the nuclear power plant at Satsop is opened, it will produce a profit for the stockholders at the expense of Olympia, McCleary, Elma, Satsop (especially Satsop), Montesano, and Aberdeen. Also Grays Harbor which has in a few years the potential for growth that will not happen if there is a nuclear power plant in the area which uses one of the most cancerous substances known: Plutonium.

The only place where such a scheme would be thought of would be in an institution for the mental deficient. Capitalism works in strange ways where profit is concerned. Capitalism is a cancer on society, and cancer without treatment gets worse. There is only one treatment for the cancer of capitalism, and that treatment is for all those who do useful work to vote out capitalism and install a government of labor (Socialist Labor Party) responsive to the people's health in and out of the industries.

Because of capitalism's greed for profit, (and competition), people are dying before their time of cancer. There is cancer causing chemicals in food, water, land, industry, and in the air. When Satsop opens, the most cancerous substance that man has ever produced will be vented, as in Hanford.

Milton Poulos

Progressive Groups Come Together

If you work on progressive issues dealing with social justice, the environment, politics, housing, labor, etc., then consider yourself a part of a larger movement. The Olympia Movement for Justice and Peace (OMJP) is beginning work on hosting a conference for all local progressive groups to be held in early October.

The specific goals and arrangements have yet to be decided, but the general idea is to establish a more cohesive network of progressive groups to work together better and to educate ourselves on the issues we work on and realize the connections between them. The first organizing meeting will be held

July 12 7pm
TESC Library Room 2219
Consider yourself and your group invited.

We are hoping to contact all local groups to get them involved in the organizing process, so not to overlook your's call Pat at 705-2726 for more information.

Works In Progress

Mission Statement: This organization is dedicated to promoting mutual understanding among diverse cultural groups and providing a voice for peoples disenfranchised by the dominant culture. We encourage the presentation of material by those most affected by exclusionary and unfair practices. Our aim is to explore the meanings of injustice and democratic participation in our society and in relation to the emerging global transition.

Anti-Discrimination Clause: We will collectively endeavor to be sensitive and respectful to all those oppressed in this society, and their issues. However, if and when we should make a mistake in this regard, we expect to acknowledge it and to express regret for injury or insult given.

The following statement will become part of the Editorial Policy and will be the governing tool for the Anti-Discrimination Clause: *WIP will make every effort to work with the contributor of material considered by WIP to be offensive in order to reach a mutually agreed upon resolution, but WIP reserves the right as a last resort to edit or not print submitted material.*

WORKERS IN PROGRESS

Jerome Johnson	Evelyn Montague
Zachary D. Lyons	Teresa Jennings
Pat Tassoni	Chris Russo
Greg Hohnholt	Sylvia Smith
Marie Smith	Dave Zink
Dave Campbell	Beth Leimbach

Works In Progress is a community newspaper sponsored by the Thurston County Rainbow Coalition. Opinions expressed do not necessarily reflect those of the Rainbow Coalition or the Workers In Progress and are solely those of the authors.

Keep those letters and cards coming. Correspondence and articles are always welcome. If possible submit articles on disk (Wordperfect). WIP reserves the right to publish in whole or part all submissions; so for editing purposes please enclose your phone number. Send submissions to Works In Progress, PO Box 295, Olympia, WA 98507.

WIP Schedule

WIP Article submission deadline is

Thursday, July 21

Also on that day, there will be a meeting at SPEECH (218 Fourth Ave) at 7 pm. Call 705-2726 for info.

Proofreading Meeting
Tuesday, July 26
7pm at Oly Library

For advertising info call ad representative

Dave Campbell at 352-6132

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"The person who has eaten enough calls the one who is hungry greedy."

– Gikuyu proverb

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Why Does My Sewage Cost Me A LOTT?

Terry Dunsmore

Should the citizens of Thurston County underwrite a maintenance program which undermines our quality of life? Do we have a choice? Are there any alternatives? The system as we know it stinks — no pun intended — and our dollars are getting sucked into oblivion.

According to the planners of LOTT, the wastewater management partnership between Lacey, Olympia, Tumwater and greater Thurston County, our choices are limited to a few astronomically expensive treatment systems. All of these alternatives are technologically out-of-date, and here is why: sewers themselves are obsolete. There is a natural sewage-treatment technology which is now being used all across the country. It's called the rock-reed filtration system. This system utilizes constructed wet lands in which nutrient-absorbing plants, aerated ponds and gravel rock beds break down pollutants and release the left over moisture into the air through 'evapotranspiration'. Bacteria chews up the rest of it.

The second alternative is to use compost toilets for sewage. In addition, citizens could use biodegradable detergents for laundry and dishes, and then store home-generated graywater for reuse on the garden, for washing the car, etc. at their home site. The remaining 'I & I', LOTT-speak for stormwater (groundwater infiltration into sewers from homes would be eliminated) would be easily treatable and containable, using a much smaller version of the rock-reed system.

This may sound confusing; sewage treatment is a hydra-head of challenges. It is simply more ethical and intelligent to pay a little money every month for a system which will upgrade the quality of life and leave future generations unfettered by this pollution. The converse reality, paying $30-100 more per month per household for a chemically-dependent dinosaur system, is an exercise in laziness and futility.

It is simply more ethical and intelligent to pay a little money every month for a system which will upgrade the quality of life and leave future generations unfettered by this pollution.

As it now stands, LOTT will also require a permit, because they will need to discharge up to 26 million gallons of treated wastewater per day into South Puget Sound. This biohazardous soup of chemical pollutants will be brought to you by your own money—and just what is that dollar value? LOTT's options are all pricey — $150 million to $300 million.

If a top model compost toilet costs around $1,000 per household, and there are approximately 134,000 citizens who will need them by the year 2010, it would cost approximately one and a half million to outfit the county. These toilets look like the one you use now; they are exquisitely simple devices, are self-contained, and require the same maintenance as a garden compost heap — but with less mass. If citizens were concerned about this inconvenience, the sewage treatment workers could be re-trained to maintain them. No one should be put out of work.

Perhaps the Olympia Brewery and the Evergreen State College could be persuaded to handle their particular effluents in an organic way, so that Budd and Eld inlets would return to their lush and beauteous original forms.

Perhaps, instead of miles of iron pipes snaking beneath the surface of this county, the tons of concrete, the mechanical equipment, and the heavy doses of chemicals needed to sustain a conventional treatment plant, there could be a constructed wetland where there is now some good land put to no good use (I can think of quite a few near-empty strip malls). For another million or two, a natural system would actually provide a harbor for aquatic life, a sanctuary for birds, snails and flowers, and a place of refuge for birdwatchers, nature lovers and hikers. Don't get weird—there is no odor, and the wetlands increase the livability of those within it because the system is natural.

This would save the county (meaning we the people) several hundred million dollars. And we could drink the water again. Wouldn't that be refreshing?

I vote for more red-winged blackbirds and less " mystery smells" coming off the lake. I vote for a heron rookery where there was once a big stinking, clanking, chemical plant. I vote for a long, exhilarating swim in cool, clear water. Then Olympia would be moving towards the sustainability goals which the city council claims it has made.

Write to LOTT. Send them this article with your name signed on it, and your address.

LOTT Wastewater Management Partnership
500 Adams N.E.
Olympia, WA 98501-6911

Tell LOTT to contact the city planners of Providence, Rhode Island, where a greenhouse experiment utilizing natural technology is already in place, the brainchild of John Todd, Ph.d., a former scientist at Woods Hole Oceanographic Institute. Tell them to contact someone in government in Denham Springs, Louisiana, which uses a rock-reed filter plant. Tell them to contact the town of Benton, Louisiana. Tell them to write to Robert Kadlec, a chemical engineer at the University of Michigan, who has researched this technology for over a decade. This is what we have been paying them to do all along, right?

Go visit Solar Source, a local appropriate technology store run by Jeff Clearwater. I haven't met Jeff, but I have read about his work in Nepal, converting fleets of cars to electric power to mitigate the pollution problems there. I know he sells compost toilets.

Solar Source
6330 Elizan Drive NW Olympia
866-2690

Write to Real Goods catalog. They are an extensive resource for alternative energy systems and sell everything from solar lanterns to electric Porsches.

Real Goods
966 Mazzoni Street
Ukiah, CA 95482-3741

Most of us are too poor to just go out and buy a compost toilet for $1000; I know I am. But wouldn't it make sense for the LOTT folks to purchase the toilets as their new system, and then charge us monthly for a year or so until we've paid it off? It's the same principle, except the money is going to alternative energy companies instead of industrial supply companies. Hmmmm.

Meet you down at the swimming hole.

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Thurston County Rainbow Coalition and Works In Progress Present

HOMELESS NEWS AND VIEWS

Volume 1, Number 8 July 1994

WASTE NOT, WANT NOT?

by Letitia Flynt

Letitia was one of Homeless News and Views *first homeless contributors. She was living out of her van until a few months ago, when the Housing Authority, through South Sound Advocates, helped her to find an apartment.*

Living with an inadequate income can make me feel very rebellious and resentful at times. Having to watch where every penny goes and still not being able to pay for the mandatory necessities is painful. Food, shelter, clothing, insurance, utilities, transportation, medical payments, etc., etc. —something usually has to slide.

In the past, I have given thanks that there are people in this country who have the $$$ to pay full price for some of these necessities. Without them, I would not have been able to buy their used cast-offs at garage sales and thrift stores. Lately, however, I worry about this abundance drying up.

For example:

A few years ago my favorite dump (yes, that's right, D-U-M-P, as in 'landfill') was closed to public access. For years, people had contracted for salvage rights to the metals and other useable discards, these reusable items then being organized in different categories off to the side away from the pit. For a few cents or a little more, bargain hunters like myself could find all sorts of treasures.

Not so anymore. The city, under the guise of initiating an expanded recycling program, dug new pits that were to last far into the coming years. Following EPA guidelines and regulations, they put down plastic liners to protect the groundwater, and installed overhead wires to discourage the eagles and seagulls from scavenging, no longer allowing human collectors access to affordable goods. Now you are no longer able to put your useable discards off to the side as before; everything, regardless of value, goes into the pit.

What was once an amazing resource of surplus goods is now closed to the frugal, brave, and adventuresome among us. I have personally furnished several homes with discarded furniture, pots and pans, dishes, typewriters, washer/dryers, toys, clothing, and just about any other common household items imaginable.

For those of you who have not had the opportunity to witness this abundance (or find yourselves wrinkling your nose), allow me to share with you a short list of some of the items I have found. Perhaps then you will, if only in retrospect, get a feel for the sheer variety of goods that could once be gleaned from our local landfill.

I have found and reused: tents, tarps, rolled roofing, nails, bolts, screws, chicken and livestock wire and metal parts, chicken feeders and waterers, rabbit cages, dozens of plants (including rose bushes, azaleas, rhododendrons, iris bulbs, daffodils, gladiolus, seed potatoes, and packaged vegetable and flower seeds taped to a display board), lumber and firewood, planters and pots, candles and craft supplies, paints and stains, room dividers, pictures, motors, magnets, magazines of every description, and hundreds of books. Rest assured this is only a small sampling!

If you've never been poor, you may be asking yourselves, "Where? How?" It's simple. Home owners, landlords, and business owners all bring what must be classified as "garbage". From rental units, abandoned storage units, and garage sales comes reusable merchandise, the remains from remodeling and new landscaping efforts, and other miscellaneous housewares. These people do not usually take the time to sort their "garbage" to ensure that thrift stores, the homeless, or poor and needy people in general have the option of obtaining these items. Nor are these thrift stores, or any other service agencies, set up to handle this cornucopia of wasted abundance. In our throwaway, consumer society, we simply don't appear to have the life energy to put into *this* kind of recycling program. And in our efforts to glamorize, sanitize, consumerize, and mesmerize the masses into believing that we don't have a poverty problem in this country, we unconsciously foster an "out of sight, out of mind" mentality, and dig bigger pits to throw our "garbage" into.

You might pause to consider the types of human lives our society is presently discarding. The "transients" and "at risk youth" I keep hearing about are two local examples that immediately spring to mind. In my opinion, if bigger and better prisons are now our best offering for transitional housing—if social service agencies are the middle men between the haves and the have nots, far too many jobs are based on things remaining the same or getting worse. We can no longer afford to throw the human lives (or material goods) that are now going to waste. Like the saying goes on our city's shiny new garbage trucks, "It's not garbage until you throw it away."

By setting new priorities, we don't need to let *any* necessities of life slide. We don't have to live on inadequate incomes or abstain from our responsibilities to ourselves and our children. There is plenty of work that needs doing NOW! Aren't we worth the effort?

BREAD & ROSES DROP-IN SEEKS VOLUNTEERS

In mid-June, the Bread and Roses Drop-In Center at 114 Cherry St. reopened to full time use for three days a week on a tentative basis. A month earlier, Bread & Roses' staff had been forced to schedule the Drop-In on half time status in May due to an ongoing monthly budget shortfall of about $2,500. Although this shortfall has yet to be contained, B&R staff have decided that if a reliable volunteer staff can be coordinated to manage the Drop-In, its hours can be extended cost effectively.

At press time, a few individuals, including members of the homeless community that the Drop-In regularly serves, had already expressed interest in volunteering for part time shifts. However, many shifts still need to be filled, and a bank of reserve volunteers are needed for substitute shifts and emergencies.

What's cooking? (Maybe you!)

Bread & Roses is also seeking other volunteers to help out in its Community Kitchen. Several of its daily lunch and dinner crews are short handed, and some weekly meals may even be canceled if volunteers are not found.

The only requirements for volunteering for either of these Bread & Roses positions are reliability and a willingness to contribute your time. In hourly terms, the bottom line commitment is 5-6 hours a week for a Drop-In shift, or 2-3 hours for a Community Kitchen lunch or dinner shift.

Call Bread & Roses at 754-4085 or 705-1125 if you wish to volunteer, or to obtain more information about available shifts. The B&R staff needs community support more than ever— please give them a call today!

HOUSING TASK FORCE ANNOUNCES 'FOCUS GRO

Four homeless subpopulations to be represented three new Task Force members chosen

By Greg Hohnholt

The Housing Task Force (HTF), which conducts studies and makes recommendations to the Housing Authority of Thurston County, will be taking a more active role in assisting the Homeless Services Committee (HSC) in finding long term housing solutions for our community's homeless population. The HTF intends to hear testimony from four homeless subpopulations (single women, families with children, single men, and unaccompanied youth) in "forum groups" during the summer.

At press time, the HTF had not yet secured an adequately-sized room for these meetings. The meeting place(s) will probably have been announced in *The Olympian* by the time you read this, so check the paper on the day of each meeting for location.

The schedule for the forum groups is tentatively scheduled as follows (all meetings will be held from 11:30 to 1:30 to enable the public to attend on their lunch hour):

July 11: Single women forum group.
July 18 : Families with children forum group.
July 25: Single men forum group.
August 8: Unaccompanied youth focus group.

The remaining HTF schedule looks like this:

August 15: "Priority setting" meeting. Information and testimony from forum groups will be summarized and translated into housing goals.

September 19: A draft of the HTF's summer work will be prepared for the Homeless Services Committee.

September 30: Final report.

New members chosen

The HTF also expanded its ranks to include three new representatives more closely associated with the needs of particular homeless subpopulations in general. The new representatives are: Ginger Penn, representing single women and families with children, Charles Shelan of Community Youth Services representing unaccompanied youth, and Michael Bradley, a member of the Board of Directors for the Sustainable Community Homeless Empowerment Movement (SCHEMe), representing SCHEMe.

HSC AND OLYMPIA CITY COUNCIL NIX FEDERAL BUILDING HOUSING PROPOSAL

By Greg Hohnholt

The Homeless Services Committee (or HSC, formerly known as the Homeless Community Services Task Force, or HSCTF) has written a letter to the state of Washington's Department of Community, Trade, and Economic Development (DCTED) indicating that they oppose transitional housing for the homeless in the Federal Building on Capitol Way.

The Federal Building proposal, coauthored by the Seattle-based Low Income Housing Institute (LIHI) and Olympia's own Sustainable Community Homeless Empowerment Movement (SCHEMe), would provide up to 37 units of single resident transitional housing for a period of up to two years, with seven of these units being earmarked for permanent housing for special homeless subpopulations. The project is estimated to cost approximately two million dollars, the bulk of this amount going toward transforming the former office building into living spaces with community style bathrooms on each floor.

HSC's letter:

A consensus decision?

In a May 20th HSC letter to DCTED, signed by Committee Chairman Dick Hinkle and HSC Staff member Pat Libbey, the HSC stated that it was currently working to "describe and prioritize the elements of a homeless services system needed and supportable at the community level." In order to do this, the letter stated, the HSC needed to first "inventory resources and quantify needs associated with all homeless populations". The letter also suggested that the Federal Building proposal was "not feasible" and inconsistent with HSC "values" and "guiding principles," which are: "maximizing existing resources, being sustainable over time, and being geographically dispersed."

Arguably, however, the origin and pretense of the HSC letter is ethically questionable. Given that the HSC had publically stated its intention to adhere to a consensus-based decision-making model since its first meeting on January 5,1994, the fact that the letter is printed on HSC stationary presumably makes it the product of a committee decision. The facts, nevertheless, do not bear this logical assumption out.

For example, the letter fails to mention that at least two HSC members, First Baptist Church Pastor Sam Hochstatter and Tumwater City Councilman Walt Jorgenson, have publically stated that they have not ruled out the Federal Building as a possible source of housing for the homeless. The letter also neglects to mention that Pastor Hochstatter has written a letter of support for the Federal Building proposal that had been attached to the LIHI grant proposal. Also, it has come to the attention of *Homeless News and Views* that although both Homeless Representatives on the HSC (Ralph Smith from Phase I and Andre Tudor of Phase II) have been present at every HSCTF or HSC meeting, neither of them were ever informed of the HSC's intention to draft such a letter.

Editorial:

Federal Building proposal is doomed by default, unless...

This letter is typical of the hollow criticism that the LIHI/SCHEMe Federal Building proposal has received. I have yet to see any opposition that clearly indicates that the person or persons have actually read the Federal Building proposal. Judging from the indiscriminate actions of Hinkle and Libby, the Olympia community is expected to trust our public servants to know what is best for Olympia without letting others (like Olympia's homeless and their Seattle advocates) propose alternative solutions. All I keep hearing from Olympia's ensconced professional middle class (i.e. Ron Rants, Ken Black, C.A.T.S.) is reactionary and feckless haranguing about how there are too many social service agencies in the downtown core, and how adding "one more" will in some way destroy the delicate economic infrastructure of our "sustainable city".

Perhaps the critical reader finds me hopelessly biased for ranting over one little letter. Well, there's more, folks. Take, for example, Mayor Bob Jacobs. Hizzoner has also indicated via personal correspondence to DCTED, on City Council stationary, that the City Council oppose the Federal Building proposal (the Mayor's letter is dated May 26, less than a week after the HSC letter). And like his HSC co-conspirators, Mr. Jacobs fails to indicate when and where the City Council actually discussed the pros and cons of the Federal Building proposal and voted on what course of action to take. Instead, he simply expects us all to believe that "Olympia has been a leader in providing financial, political, and technical assistance to permanent, transitional, and shelter housing throughout the community." (I'm sure the 70-100+ men who stayed at the First Baptist Church Men's Shelter almost every night last winter will be edified to hear that, Bob. If Pastor Hochstatter and the First Baptist congregation had agreed with your assessment of Olympia's "leadership," these men would have been sleeping on the streets.)

Take heart, Olympia. We can at least rest easy knowing that the Mayor, Dick Hinkle, and Pat Libby have all reached consensus on how to fabricate their own consensus. The bottom line of this "consensus"? Because our local "public servants" have had their collective political toes stepped on by outsiders, the LIHI/SCHEMe Federal Building proposal appears to be doomed by default. Nobody likes to be upstaged, and when the state stepped in and brought SCHEMe and LIHI together during the Sylvester Park encampment last March, the Homeless Task Force and Olympia City Council suddenly had their self-congratulatory "leadership" image, so aptly rhapsodized by Jacobs, called into question.

It will take the YOU, the private citizen, to hold the HSC and the Olympia City Council to a higher moral standard that they themselves, out of pride, will not sanction. Call SCHEMe at 352-9834 and get the facts about the Federal Building proposal. Then decide for yourself.

Or do nothing. And let them decide for you.

E

GROUPS'

esented,

A brief editorial...

If you're homeless, you cannot overestimate the importance of these meetings. Keep your eyes peeled to the *Olympian* for their location and BE THERE! If you know any homeless individuals living in the woods anywhere around Olympia, TELL THEM TO ATTEND. Low attendence at these meetings sends a message to our local politicians on the Homeless Services Committee that immediate action can be put on hold for yet another year. IF THE VOICE OF THE HOMELESS ISN'T HEARD AT THESE MEETINGS, IT WILL BE "BUSINESS AS USUAL" ONCE AGAIN—with our already overtaxed nonprofit service providers being forced to try to pick up the slack during the winter. SUPPORT THE HTF'S NEW HOMELESS REPRESENTATIVES BY SHOWING UP—LET THEM KNOW THAT YOU'RE OUT THERE!

(One more suggestion—register to vote. Most of these politicians are making a damn good living off of your remaining homeless, so you might as well hold them accountable for the quality of their representation.)

HOMELESS NEWS AND VIEWS TO TAKE A LEAVE OF ABSENCE

Effective immediately, *Homeless News and Views* is ceasing monthly publication for an unspecified period of time. While *Works in Progress* and I will continue to cover all local news events concerning homelessness, I have decided that the meager community interest in this publication does not warrant a separate, four page section being printed every month.

Why are we doing this, you ask? In simple language, *Homeless News and Views* simply isn't getting submissions anymore, and I no longer have the time to write most of the articles every month. If I were making money on this venture, I would rename the paper *Greg's Homeless News and Views* and write the entire four pages, but such a scenario is unlikely, if not impossible. The time has come when I must find (near) full time employment or risk becoming homeless myself.

It's not wise for journalists to make predictions, but *Homeless News and Views* will probably be back in the late fall or early winter. That's when Olympia's existing shelter services will once again be overrun, creating the ideal conditions for more media coverage and community-wide interest in a paper of this kind. Until then, *Works in Progress* will continue to encourage our homeless community and their advocates to publish articles, poetry, and life-stories about homelessness. (Damned unlikely, but just thought I'd keep the door open anyway.)

My sincere thanks to everyone who has helped me with this publication over the past eight months. Special thanks to Letitia, Pawnee, Delwin, Gary, Jennifer Minet, Emily Walton, Tristan Fields, Martin Lee, and everyone in SCHEMe—I am grateful for all your assistance and trust.

Greg Hohnholt

Statement of Purpose

WiP's aim in publishing *Homeless News and Views* is threefold: (1) First and foremost, we wish to make some contribution to dispelling the narrow misconceptions about who the homeless are and how these *individuals* became homeless. We believe that this can best be accomplished by (2) granting homeless individuals a free, uncensored medium with which to tell their stories, voice their concerns, and exchange information. By doing so, (3) the homeless will hopefully become more in our community's imagination than a faceless mass of people without homes—perhaps we who *have* homes will begin to understand the importance of considering what the homeless have to offer the future of our community rather than by what they lack in the immediate present.

Homeless News and Views is seeking articles, poetry, photography, or artwork concerning homelessness. Homeless contributors are given top priority, but anyone wishing to make relevant submissions are urged to do so. All interested parties may contact the editor, Greg Hohnholt, at 943-5315. If you wish to be interviewed, require access to a word processor, or would like some assistance with getting your thoughts into print, please call to make arrangements to meet with Greg. Thank you!

Along the Color Line

The "We Shall Overcome" Vs. The "Hip Hop" Generations

Dr. Manning Marable

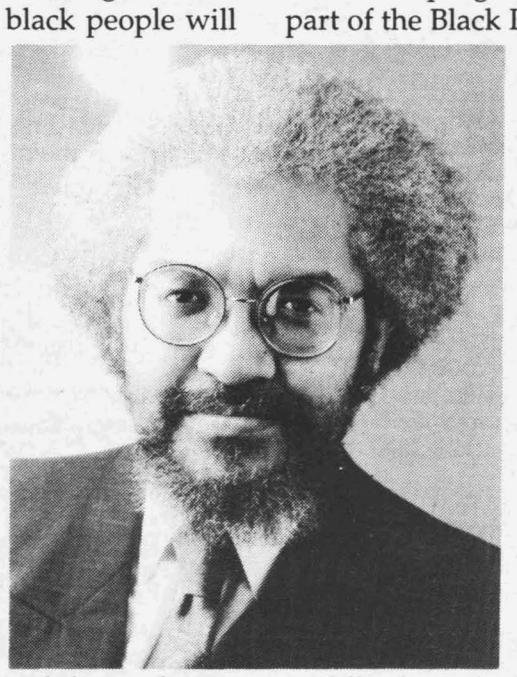
Across Black America, there is a clear division of culture, politics and social expectations which separates younger African Americans from the established black leadership. To a real extent, this culture clash is intergenerational, symbolized between those African-Americans born before 1964 and those who were born after the great legislative victories of the Civil Rights Movement which outlawed segregation. In general, one might define this division as being between the "We Shall Overcome" generation and the "Hip Hop" generation.

We must take aggressive steps to bridge this generation gap, and quickly, if the black community is going to move forward into the next century.

The generation of African-Americans born after the Great Depression of the thirties but before the Civil Rights Act of 1964 witnessed unprecedented gains in black economic, social and political power. For example, the median incomes of black families in which both the wife and the husband were employed rose from about $28,700 in 1967 (in 1990 inflation-adjusted dollars) to over $40,000 in 1990, a real increase of 40 percent. More than one in seven black families currently earn above $50,000 annually. The black consumer market increased from $30 billion in 1960 to over $300 billion today. The number of African Americans enrolled in colleges leaped from about 40,000 at the end of World War II to over 750,000 by 1975.

The "We Shall Overcome" generation lived through the most dynamic and icon-shattering decade of the twentieth century–the 1960s. This turbulent history left indelible marks on the political culture and group psychology of this earlier generation. For those who stood in the streets–defiantly facing Alabama State Troopers at the Edmund Pettus bridge in Selma in 1965; or seized student union buildings and dormitories at dozens of white college campuses to force recalcitrant administrations to initiate Black Studies departments; or who registered hundreds of thousands of new voters, from the Mississippi Delta to Chicago's sprawling South Side–the possibilities in politics were only limited by the boundaries of our imaginations. Everything seemed possible for a brief, shining moment. Tomorrow would always be better than yesterday.

The "Hip Hop" generation's primary experience in politics can be characterized by one word–defeat. This generation's most dominating and influential national political figure was Ronald Reagan. Reaganism came to power in 1981, destroying the concept of liberal government and social welfare, and undermining affirmative action programs. The generation which produced the dynamic cultural expression of rap music came to maturity in a context of rising black-on-black violence, symbolized by the Crips vs. the Bloods in South Central Los Angeles. One graphic illustration of the omnipresence of violence in our cities is the fact that during the next five years, more black people will be killed in this country than the total number of American troops who died in Vietnam. Hip Hop emerged in the context of widespread unemployment, homelessness, and in the context of fear and social alienation. For many of our young people, there is no sense or expectation that a future is worth living for–or that it even exists. One lives for today, because tomorrow might never come.



This is the central reason that reactionary black nationalism has emerged as a cultural and social force among our young people. When white society and our government become blind and mute to the harsh realities of innercity poverty, unemployment and social chaos, the activism and militancy among our young people turn inward. Why advocate coalition politics or protest strategies such as Jesse Jackson's Rainbow Coalition, when there are apparently no allies within the white population? The narrow, dogmatic, race-based separatism of Khalid Abdul Muhammad parallels the reactionary black nationalism of a Buthelezi in South Africa. But black progressives who were part of the Black Power movement of the late 1960s-1970s have failed to reach out to young people, listen to their grievances and their pain, and help them to create a viable alternative to racial reaction.

Despite the legal and political gains African-Americans have achieved, and despite the growth of a black middle class, the reality is that the basic conditions for the vast majority of black people and youth especially have become strikingly worse in the past fifteen years. We must take aggressive steps to bridge this generation gap, and quickly, if the black community is going to move forward into the next century.

Dr. Manning Marable is Professor of History, and Director, Institute for African-American Studies, Columbia University. **Along the Color Line** *appears in over 250 publications and is broadcast by over 75 radio stations internationally.*

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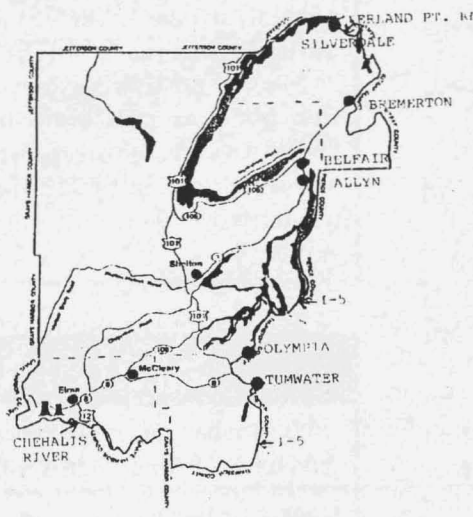

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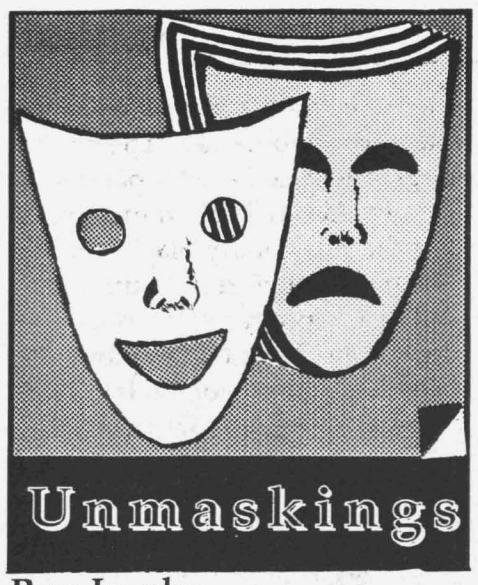

Thanks, But No Thanks, Uncle Sam

Ron Jacobs

This piece is about Haiti. That small country in the Caribbean which shares the island of Hispaniola with the Dominican Republic. Haiti— where, in 1804, Toussaint L'Ouverture helped foment and lead a rebellion of slaves against their colonial masters in an action which to this day inspires people in similar circumstances around the world. Haiti — where the United States, in all its magnanimity, invaded in 1915 and stayed for twenty some years, establishing the legacy which continues to haunt the nation's people to this day. Haiti — where a rebel priest, Bertrand Aristide, who sees his religion as a liberating force here on earth, was elected president in 1990 by the majority of Haitians in a resounding denial of the U.S. legacy of corrupt, murderous leadership. Haiti — where that same popular government was overthrown a year later in a coup by military officers aided by the United States.

Which brings us to today. Today, when North American liberal/leftists scramble to be first to call for a U.S. military invasion of the island, either by the Marines and Rangers or by a CIA created army of exiles (like the Bay of Pigs force or the Contras). An invasion whose purpose would supposedly be the restoration of Aristide to power. Sounds pretty noble, right? Given the history of the U.S. in the region, such a result seems unlikely. If one reads the finer print in the press releases emanating from Washington on this subject, the plan most likely to gain favor does not involve the restoration of Aristide, but calls instead for a U.S. occupation of the island, the "retraining" of the current police forces, and new elections.

New elections whose outcome would be predetermined by the United States, just like those in Panama, Nicaragua, Grenada, and who knows where else. It seems pretty safe to assume that the true victors in any such elections would not be the majority of the Haitian people, but some combination of the least sadistic and corrupt supporters of the current military regime and the more rightist supporters of the coalition which put Aristide in power in 1990. As for those re-trained police forces, of course the trainers would come from the United States. In fact, they would probably come straight from the School of the Americas — that great training ground for such heroes of democracy as the man responsible for the murder of six Jesuits in El Salvador in 1989, among other. In short, the U.S. plan hopes to pave the way for continued exploitation of the island's cheap labor force without the threat of a leftist popular government or the public relations disaster of a regime which brutally murders dozens of its subjects every day.

Opposing U.S. military intervention does *not* mean supporting the murderers currently in power in Haiti. *It merely means opposing intervention.* Even if the purpose of any such intervention were the restoration of Aristide, his position among supporters would be considerably weakened. According to an article in the May 25, 1994 edition of *Haiti Progress*, an independent Haitian weekly, members of the peasant coalition Mouvman Peyizan Papay (a coalition of over 2,000 peasant, worker, youth and women's groups) reported that most of the Haitians they work with "opposed any form of military intervention and said they believe that continued resistance, local organizing, and the embargo are the few tools the Haitian people have to regain their president."

...the U.S. plan hopes to pave the way for continued exploitation of the island's cheap labor force without the threat of a leftist popular government ...

An obvious example of just such an effort is South Africa. After years of struggle and international sanctions against that country's racist policy of apartheid, Nelson Mandela and the popular organization he belongs to — The African National Congress — was elected to power. The emotions and commitment which accompanied that victory were widespread and deep. Furthermore, since the popular organizations conducted the struggle all along, they owe nothing to any government or corporation now that they have won.

As we do what we can to support the Haitian people in their struggle, we should keep the example of South Africa in mind. The seemingly easy solution of a military invasion is not as simple as it looks.

...And Now, Korea

Jerome Johnson

Let's be fair; when Bill Clinton was asking us to hire him as president of the United States, he assured us that the domestic agenda (" It's the economy, stupid") would be his main priority. And when we hired , he tried to keep his word. Yes, he inherited some foreign policy challenges (Haiti, Somalia, Middle East), but we understood —and he agreed — that the primary focus of his first term would be on problems here at home. He would remain "engaged" worldwide, but the U.S. itself would be paramount.

Yet no sooner than the end of Inaugural Week were there rumbles of discontent, mostly from the media pundits and the so-called "foreign policy establishment." "America must lead", Richard Nixon grumbled from New Jersey. "Lift the arms embargo on Bosnia" , pleaded Anthony Lewis and A. M. Rosenthal. The world "looked to America for leadership and resolve", George F. Will intoned. Except for lifting the Bosnian arms embargo, none of them were specific about what " resolve" and "leadership" mean; but reading between the lines, it`s clear that they mean military actions that they wouldn`t have to participate in or account for. To his credit, Clinton has very wisely refrained from their advice. I hope he continues to do so in the case of North Korea.

The situation with North Korea continues to be very delicate. The crux of the matter is how the U.S. will respond to the North Korean nuclear capability: forbid it or live with it?

I most strongly recommend that we live with it.

There are three basic facts about the North Korean nuclear capability that the U.S. must understand:

- 1. It exists, whether we like it or not,
- 2. Like it or not, we cannot take it away from them without a devastating war, very likely World War Three.
- 3. Therefore, we should treat them just as we do the Chinese, Russians, South Africans, Israelis, Indians, Pakistanis, Ukranians, Beylorussians, French, and British. We should open talks, exchange ambassadors and negotiate arms control. And live in readiness of each other: like everyone else, the North Koreans know that a nuclear attack on the U.S. or its allies would be instantly and terribly responded to. As the North Koreans cannot sustain even a first strike, I doubt very much that they would do anything to risk U. S. retaliation.

Clinton should understand that it takes more strength to negotiate than to fight. As Yasser Arafat once said, "It is easy for us warriors to make war. What is difficult is to make peace."

I've heard some stupid talk about preemptive air strikes at the Yongbyon reactor and other facilities. This is totally insane. The North Koreans would detect it and and rightly decide that it was a surprise attack, an act of war like Pearl Harbor, maybe—and react accordingly. After all, if the North Koreans tried to bomb Los Alamos, how would the Air Force respond?

South Korea has agreed to a summit meeting with the North, after more that forty years. This is an excellent development, long overdue, and hopefully just the beginning of real peace in Korea. China, Japan, Thailand, everyone opposes a war. For once and at last, a war would actually be bad for business...the loss in lives, incalculable. Last time four million people died...

Fortunately, it's only the pundits who want a war so far. To his credit, Clinton has moved carefully; maybe he doesn't listen to Nixon any more. Clinton should understand that it takes more strength to negotiate than to fight. As Yasser Arafat once said, "It is easy for us warriors to make war. What is difficult is to make peace."

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Farm Workers Escalate Activism

Todd Crosby and Sheila Payne

The United Farm Workers have pledged a new activism in labor organizing in the state of Washington and across the nation. From March 31 to April 24, 15,000 farm workers and supporters marched 340 miles from Delano to Sacramento California under the theme "Cada Trabajador es un Orginazidor" (Each Worker is an Organizer).

The importance of Washington state farm workers was a central feature of the march. At every turn along the march the boycott of U.S. Tobacco (UST) owned Chateau Ste. Michelle (CSM) wine was emphasized. The last three days of the march were dedicated to new membership, particularly the United Farm Workers of Washington State (UFWWS). In fact, the recent affiliation of the UFWWS with the Cesar Chavez' United Farm Workers of America, AFL-CIO has energized the entire farm worker movement.

In response to the affiliation, U.S. Tobacco CEO Vincent Gierer announced that the company is "hopeful that a resolution to this dispute could be found." This is a clear change in position from UST/CSM's insistence on a "legal" framework for negotiating.

This does not suggest that farm workers' struggles with UST and Chateau Ste. Michelle are over. Negotiations have not begun, and a contract is far from being accomplished. The necessity for the workers and citizens of Washington to show support is as important now as it was seven years ago.

Since 1987, the UFWWS have been risking their lives in order to better their standard of living. For seven years the UFWWS have been fighting UST and Chateau Ste. Michelle for the simple democratic process of a union election. For the last seven years farm workers have been fighting to gain their rights as the working people who produce the food we consume. Indeed, farm workers struggles *are* our struggles.

It is time for farm worker supporters and all who are concerned about human rights to escalate their activism. Commit one hour a week to an informational picket or write letters to venues and businesses carrying the wines pledging your support and asking them to honor the boycott. (See insert)

This summer promises to be a busy and active one for farm workers and their supporters. Pickets are being organized well in advance in the hopes of large turnouts. Throughout July and August the UFWWS will be conducting informational pickets at CSM's Summer Concert Series. (See insert for times and dates) Already Jackson Brown, who was scheduled to play at the Chateau Ste. Michelle winery August 4, has pledged to not cross the UFWWS picket lines. In another courageous act, the Theatrical and Stage Workers Union is standing in solidarity with the UFWWS by refusing to work the concert series.

In addition to the concert series, the Children's Hospital and Medical Center will be holding an auction at the CSM winery August 27. The UFWWS are trying to compel the Hospital to change venues. The hospital pledged a year ago to find an alternative venue for their auction. They have not. Please see the insert for the addresses to which you can send your letters.

Please call Sheila at 352-2153 for more information about pickets at the Chateau Ste. Michelle winery or Todd at 357-3192 for more information about weekly pickets.

Dates for Picketting at the Winery

We will leave the Rainy Day Records parking lot an hour-and-a-half before the concert start time.

- Haute Ma Liebert 7/15 7:00
- Willie Nelson 7/16 7:00
- Spiro Gira 7/22 7:00
- Bellevue Philharmonic 7/24 & 7/31 2:00
- Art Garfunkel 7/30 7:00
- Songwriters Festival 8/13 2:00
- Pacific NorthWest Ballet 8/21 1:30
- Tony Bennett 9/11 7:00

ADDRESSES FOR YOU TO WRITE TO:

Local restaurants to write to:

Budd Bay Cafe
525 N. Columbia
Olympia, WA 98501

Genoa's on the Bay
1525 Washington NE
Olympia, WA 98501

Ruby's Coffee House
700 4th Ave. E
Olympia, WA 98501

Others to write

Children's Hospital Addresses:
The Children's Hospital and Medical Center
CEO/President Treuman Katz
4800 Sandy Point Way NE
Seattle, WA 98105

Phil Smart, Chairman of the Auction
600 E. Pike
Seattle, WA 98122

Allen Shoup (President of CSM)
One Stimson Lane
Woodinville, WA 98072

Vincent Gierer
CEO, U.S. Tobacco
100 W. Putnam
Greenwich, CT 06830

Jeff Smith
c/o The Frugal Gourmet
88 Virginia #2
Seattle, WA 98101

The Frugal Gourmet, Jeff Smith, is still a spokesman for CSM wines on his cooking show despite his church's support for the boycott.

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